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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

Talking Books

AVRL has accepted receipt of 29 boxes of Talking Books (over 1,000 items) from the Toronto Public Library. These were being offered to libraries for the price of shipping only.

Donation

The Dr. Frank W. Morse Memorial Library in Lawrencetown has been the recipient of a $500 donation from the Grand Lodge of the Freemasons. This supplements a $500 donation made last year by the local group. While a portion of the first funds went to the purchase of Mason-related titles, the remaining money will be used to enhance the general collection at this library.

Contests

During March AVRL ran two contests. The first was to name a new character that will frequent AVRL's website and posters. This contest closed on March 21 with a winner to be announced soon. The second contest was *How well do you know the Library's website?* and ran until March 31. A draw for prizes will be made from all correct entries.

Programs

2008-00085/

Wolfville Memorial Library hosted an author reading on February 8. Dr. Zoltan Dienes, a world-famous theorist and tireless practitioner of the *new mathematics* – an approach to mathematics-learning which uses games, songs and dance to make it more appealing to children – offered a presentation to a group of 35 people.

The Kingston Branch offered its first ever series of traditional pre-school story times during February and March.

The Middleton Library has been officially renamed the Rosa M. Harvey Middleton and Area Library in honour of the past chairperson of the *Friends* group and principal initiator of the original and subsequent fund-raising drives for the current library building .

The building contract for the new Windsor Library has been awarded and the proposed date for the start of construction is late April or May, with completion time set for October.

It was spring at the Dr. Frank W. Morse Memorial Library, Lawrencetown on March 8. A one week old lamb was part of the library's pre-school program. The visit was enjoyed by all as they got to feed and pet the energetic newborn.

A sampling of March Break activities held throughout AVRL included: drawing workshops at the Bridgetown & Lawrencetown Libraries; a music workshop at the Annapolis Royal Library; computer camps for kids in several branches; a children's author visit by Barb Todd, author of *Rainmaker,* at the Kentville Library; a magic show at the Kentville Library; and several guest storytellers at the Wolfville Branch.

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

March Break 2004

CBRL's March Break programs at the McConnell Library continued to draw a crowd. During March Break the library scheduled interesting, fun and entertaining programs for school-aged children.

On Tuesday, local artist Iris Currie taught the kids some tricks of the trade with a program on cartooning.

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day was the order of the day for Wednesday's program. Children had a lot of fun creating either a shamrock mobile craft or a Leprechaun mask craft -- the choice was theirs. Staff members Donna MacLeod and Theresa Mac Donald assisted the kids. Brian Gallivan, a local theatre arts teacher conducted the Thursday March Break program entitled *Theatre Games*. Brain has offered this program at the library in the past and both the staff and the children participating really appreciated the fun, encouraging environment that Brian always manages to create. Staff members Donna MacLeod and Tara Mac Neil hosted Friday's *Games Day* program where kids spent an hour playing a variety of games. All went away with a small prize and it was a nice way to finish off the week.

March Break activities at CBRL.

Toddler Time Update

It's been two years since CBRL began offering a *Toddler Time* program. Since its inception, *Toddler Time* has been offered at the following three branches: Sydney, North Sydney and Glace Bay. In the beginning, it is safe to say that most staff felt apprehensive and a little afraid of offering a program to parents and children 18 months - 3 years. However, over the past two years all apprehension has since disappeared and the staff who offer *Toddler Time* really enjoy this age group.

***Toddler Time* at the North Sydney Branch.**

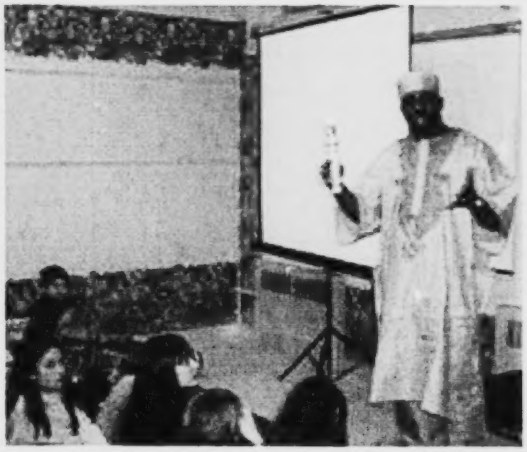
Colchester-East Hants Regional Library (CEHRL)

New Look on the Web

CEHRL has a new look thanks to library employee Karen King, who is redesigning the web site, which can be found at http://cehlibrary.ednet.ns.ca. The photo on CEHRL's homepage shows a grandfather reading to his grandchild courtesy of a woman in California, who was delighted to give her permission for the use of the picture of her father and child.

Read to Feed

James Wani, president of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College's International Student Association helped to launch this year's winter reading program when he spoke to a class of grade 6 students about his childhood in Sudan. *Read to Feed* is the theme this year, and from January 27 to March 13 participants had the chance to help children in developing countries while reading for the fun of it. For every 100 pages or 5 picture books the children read, they received one share. At the end of the program, shares were tallied and the Rotary Club of Truro donated funds to buy a gift through the *Read to Feed* program of Heifer International, which helps families become more self reliant through gifts of livestock or seedlings. The idea for linking the library to this worthy fund raiser is thanks to Daphne Cragg, CEHRL's Administrator of Adult and Outreach Services and a Rotarian.



James Wani speaking to students about his life in Sudan.

Family Literacy Day

Celebration of *Family Literacy Day* was a busy one for the Minister of Education and staff of CEHRL. In the morning they attended the local launch of the *Read to Me! Nova Scotia Family Literacy Program* at the Colchester Regional Hospital; while in the afternoon, activities moved to the Truro Branch Library. Here the Minister spoke to an enthusiastic crowd gathered to celebrate the day and the accomplishments of students, tutors and instructors through the programs of the *Colchester Adult Learning Association* (CALA). The event also saw the launch of CALA's new web site www.nald.ca/cala/ and readings by students from the recently published *Over the Mountain # 7*.

Family Literacy Research Project Update

The second stage of the *Family Literacy Research Project* being conducted by CEHRL and the Nova Scotia Department of Education, Adult Education Division began in September 2004. On November 3, 2003 the *Family Literacy Best Practices Guide for Programs in Nova Scotia* was launched at CEHRL. This document can be used to improve existing family literacy programs; as an evaluation tool for programs; and as a guide to set up new family literacy programs.

The Honourable Jamie Muir, Minister of Education, was in attendance to say a few words and had the opportunity to read to a group of 4 year olds.

On December 1, 2003 the *Family Literacy Action Plan Forum* took place at the Debert Hospitality Centre in Debert, Nova Scotia. Forty-five family literacy practitioners/stakeholders attended the event to set up networking channels in the province. The guest speaker for the event was Dr. Ann Sherman, Chair of the School of Education, St. Francis Xavier University, who discussed the benefits of family literacy in the school system and beyond. Dr. Sherman's talk included practical ideas and activities that could be transferable to any family literacy setting. Currently, *Family Literacy Regional Action Plan* meetings are being conducted across the province to consult family literacy practitioners and stakeholders regarding the training and support that is required to advance the field of family literacy in Nova Scotia. Successful meetings have been held in Truro, Dartmouth, Wagmatcook (Cape Breton), Berwick, Yarmouth, Liverpool and Cumberland.

The final stage of the project will see the delivery of *Foundational Training in Family Literacy* to 40 participants across Nova Scotia. The material reflects the complex range of knowledge and skills required by those working in a family literacy context. It will be introduced in a series of facilitated workshops using a participatory approach to adult education. The workshops will be of interest to practitioners already working in the field of family literacy, and to those interested in including family literacy in a collaborative approach to programs and services for families. More information on this

training and the registration forms can be found at http://cehlibrary.ednet.ns.ca/pages/famlit/index.html or by contacting Michelle Bowden, Project Coordinator, *Family Literacy Research Project*, CEHRL, 754 Prince Street, Truro, Nova Scotia, B2N 1G9, phone: 902.895.4183, fax: 902.895.7149, e-mail: mbowden@nstc.library.ns.ca.

Community Library Joins CEHRL

April 1 Mount Uniacke Public Library became a branch of CEHRL. Opened in October 2000, the community library was created and operated by the *Friends of Uniacke Public Library Association* and the Municipality of East Hants. From the beginning, *adoption* by CEHRL was the goal. Board and staff welcome this addition and applaud the *Friends* and Municipality for their commitment to providing public library service.

Gwynne Dyer Visits The Truro Library

More than 100 people attended a talk by popular author, broadcaster and columnist Gwynne Dyer at the Truro Library. Tickets for the event were in high demand and were distributed very quickly. Mr. Dyer is on a speaking tour to promote his new book *Three Projects and a Few Funerals.*

Cumberland Regional Library (CURL)

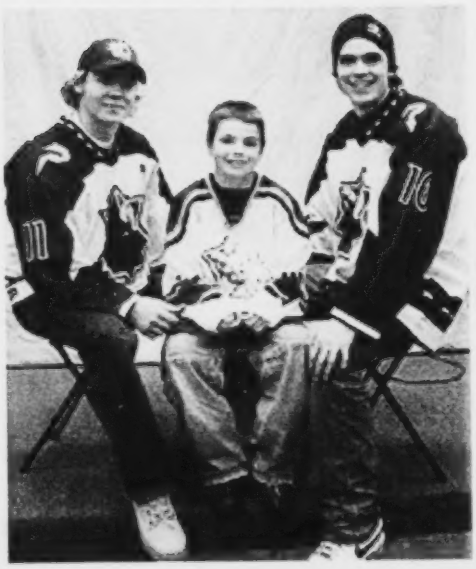
CURL has recently developed a Strategic Plan to identify the directions the library is pursuing over the next few years. The Strategic Plan will be used to help the Library Board with budgeting and allow the management team to establish priorities in workflow. The plan was a joint effort of both library staff and board members. Five key goals were established: promotion of library services; improving service to teens; improving service to seniors; improving service to children grade six and lower; and improving computer and online services. For each of these goals, specific objectives and actions have been identified. For example, to improve the library's service to teens, one of the actions to be taken includes holding a focus group of local teens. This group will gather information on what they would like to have available in the library collection and what types of programs they would like to see offered. For seniors, the library hopes to purchase more large print books and audiobooks, as well as promote the free *Books By Mail* service to those who are unable to visit the library. Copies of the plan are available at all seven CURL branches and will soon be available on the library's website at http://crl.library.ns.ca.

On March 2 celebrations were held in honour of what would have been Dr. Seuss' 100th birthday. Parties were held in Amherst, Springhill and Oxford, and kids of all ages were treated to stories, games and treats all with a Dr. Seuss theme.

Assistant Librarian Beth Clinton is pictured playing a game during the Dr. Seuss party.

Things were hopping at the library during March Break. Some of the activities offered included papier mâché crafts, science fun, games day, movies, puppet shows and a henna tattoo workshop just for teens.

The Amherst Branch hosted a *Ramblers Hockey Party* on March 5. Fans had the opportunity to have their picture taken with a *Rambler* and get autographs as well as win an autographed hockey stick.



A young *Rambler* fan was delighted to meet his favorite hockey players.

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

Staff of ECRL were on hand recently to promote *Library Card Month* and attend the grand opening of the Communities Along the Bay Multi-Use Centre in Larrys River, Guysborough County. This new facility, "Community inspired, built, and owned", is the location for the library's newest Guysborough County Libr@ry Link site. ECRL staff visit the community centre once a month, welcoming patrons from Larrys River, Charlos Cove, Tor Bay and Lundy, the four communities served by the centre.

Chief Librarian Dave Cumby welcomes new member and Larrys River resident Hazel Richard.

The travelling *Library Card Month Display* also made the rounds of rural communities in the counties of Inverness, Richmond and Guysborough.

Petit de Grat Library Assistant Kenneth David meets with staff of the Charles Forest Co-Operative in Arichat.

Aurea Gillis, Mobile Library Assistant, discusses library services with Mabou Fresh Mart employee Jimmy MacDonald.

ECRL is finally distributing the first one hundred or so of the newly purchased and processed DVD

titles to its library locations throughout the region. It is expected that this format will now represent the vast majority of the audiovisual purchases, gradually replacing the approximately 3000 videos in the collection. Significant time was devoted to developing the best method of processing and circulating the new materials. Because of the vulnerability for theft (ECRL does not have 3M (or other) security systems) the DVD discs will be kept at the circulation desk along with the music CDs. Due to the expected high demand for this collection, a more efficient storage and retrieval system (using Binders, CD sleeves and Disc accession numbers) has been developed to store and access the discs for check out and check in.

ECRL was pleased to recently receive approval via the Nova Scotia Office of Economic Development and the Inverness County CAP Network Society (ICCNS) to have the Port Hawkesbury and Margaree Forks Branches added to the List of CAP sites that are eligible to receive 2003-04 and future CAP sustainability funding. All seven ECRL branches are now officially funded sites within the three respective County CAP networks. It is hoped that the initial partnership formed with these CAP organizations will be expanded as ECRL continues to work together on common issues.

Halifax Public Libraries (HPL)

African Heritage Month - A Community Success

This year's *African Heritage Month*, which marked twenty years of celebration, kicked off with HPL and the Black History Month Association partnering to host the opening night program and reception at the Halifax North Memorial Public Library.

The event attracted a full house of community members and politicians, including the Honourable Myra Freeman, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia; Mr. Leonard Hill, Consul General of the United States of America; the Honourable Barry Barnet, Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs; and Darrell Dexter, Leader of the Nova Scotia NDP and official leader of the opposition.

This impressive level of support continued throughout the month, as the library offered an exciting range of programs centering around four important themes: education and lifelong learning; technology and media; justice; and arts and literature. High profile guests such as George Elliott Clarke and topical programs such as *Black Youth and Justice* were especially well received, attracting large audiences and plenty of media coverage.

Through outside funding, HPL brought in special guests, produced high quality promotional materials and created lasting tributes to local black history. One such example is the *African Nova Scotians Resource Guide*, available in the library or in the *African Heritage* section of HPL' s website.

Week-Long Library Closure

Between January 26 - February 1, 2004, HPL was closed to the public in order to update the library's automated library system. The new automated system allows HPL to keep pace with increases in use and support new services, such as the library's new catalogue. During the closure all customer records (including holds, loans and fines) were moved to the new system.

Thanks to the recent upgrade, HPL now has a catalogue that's more user-friendly and provides even better access to the library's collections through improved search options, familiar graphics and

seamless movement from the catalogue to the Internet and back again. It also includes full-color graphics of book jackets and/or media covers for popular items.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

Of all of the programs held in the New Glasgow Library Program Room for young people, art instruction and workshops are always one of the best attended. In fact, programs of this nature receive so much interest that additional sessions are often required to accommodate all the young artists registered by eager parents. As a result of this attention to art programs, PARL is now considering a summer art camp. During the past two summers PARL has hosted very poplar writing camps and with the experience gathered from these events, PARL programming staff anticipates that this template could lead to other learning camps. Topics could include art, video production and theater.

A young artist during a March Break water colour workshop at the new Glasgow Library Program Room.

On Friday, March 19, *The Iraq Is Not For Sale Peace Committee* held a news conference in the New Glasgow Library Program Room to recognize the anniversary of the U.S. led invasion of Iraq. Well attended by concerned citizens and media alike, the ad hoc session resulted in some interesting debate.

Members of *The Iraq Is Not For Sale Peace Committee* and guests discuss the war and what the future may hold.

Noted author and broadcaster Gwynne Dyer spoke to a capacity audience on March 23 in the Program Room of the New Glasgow Library. Tickets for this popular event were gone in three hours. Mr. Dyer is on a speaking tour promoting his new book *Three Projects and a Few Funerals*.

Guest speaker Gwynne Dyer holds the attention of those attending his recent lecture at the New Glasgow Library Program Room.

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL)

Friends of the Library

The *Friends of SSRL* is up and running! *Friends* are people interested in activities that support the library. They will look at a number of different possibilities to help SSRL, including selling tickets on a gift basket; assisting with a survey of those who use the Bridgewater Library; and assisting library staff during author readings and special events.

Popular Library Programs

SOLD OUT! is a common response to folks when enquiring about library programs the day before they are offered at the Liverpool and Bridgewater Libraries. Since last September both branches have offered monthly programs with great success. The Thomas H. Raddall Library in Liverpool offers a once a month *Passion* series. Topics have included (A Passion for . . .) the journey, the past, music, art, nature and more. It is common to have 25 - 30 people in attendance. Programs at the Bridgewater Library are developed around topics of interest to the borrowers - genealogy, diabetes, ADHD and origami for adults to name a few. Although these programs are usually filled to capacity, attendance is limited by the size of the very small program room at the Bridgewater Library (maximum 12). A regular story and craft time held in Lunenburg, Liverpool and Bridgewater is always a favourite with SSRL's very young readers (3 - 6).

Seniors' Library Café

The Seniors' Library Café, held the first Monday of each month at the Bridgewater Library, is a success. While the library is closed to the public seniors drop by for coffee and a light refreshment, have a guided tour of the library and receive basic computer instruction. More than one dozen seniors have turned out for each café since it began in February 2004. Future cafés will offer programming on topics decided upon by the seniors who attend; upcoming topics include feng shui and how to form a book discussion club.

Tale Spinners

Tale Spinners, an early literacy program for parents/caregivers and their baby or toddler, is now being offered in library branches and rural locations throughout Lunenburg County. The program includes finger plays, stories, rhymes and songs to help introduce babies to the world of reading. Parents or

caregivers and their young charges receive a special *Tale Spinners* bag, board book, library card and other informational handouts. To date over 135 children and parents in Queens County have completed the program, which is sponsored by SSRL and the IWK Health Centre Foundation.

Author Readings

A successful grant from the Canada Council for the Arts means SSRL borrowers will have a chance to meet a great line-up of authors who will visit the region this spring. Marq de Villiers and Sheila Hirtle, Joan Clark and Donna Morrisey will read to adult audiences. Kids at school in New Germany, Bayview, Pentz, New Ross and Greenfield Schools will enjoy readings by Kathy Stinson, Jill Bryant, Julie Lawson and Joan Clark.

Library Too Small

In response to the lack of space for programs and other limits imposed by the current Bridgewater Library, staff and the Library Board have formed a committee to investigate the possibility of building a new, much larger facility, which would combine the library headquarters with the Bridgewater Branch. Such a move would increase the size of the branch to approximately 15,000 sq. ft. from the current 4,000 sq. ft. and would bring the library up to the standards set by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. The Committee includes representation from the Town of Bridgewater, the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, the Regional Development Agency, Nova Scotia Community College and the Bridgewater and Area Chamber of Commerce.

Library Fundraising Strategy

SSRL is two-thirds of the way though its current fundraising strategy, developed with the help of an HRDC grant. The strategy is the cornerstone of SSRL's annual fundraising campaign and includes such initiatives as book sales, adopt-a-book and a professional offices campaign.

Personnel Policy

After two years of work by staff and Board, a revised Personnel Policy was approved by the SSRL Board in November 2003. Copies have been sent to all other Regional Libraries.

Health Line

Be well connected, the Health and Wellness Information Referral Line for Lunenburg County, began operation in March. This is a joint project of Lunenburg County Community Health Board, SSRL, South Shore Health and the Nova Scotia Health Network. Lunenburg County is the first rural area in Canada to establish this kind of service - similar to the *211* service available in urban centres. Plans are to merge with the province-wide *211* service when it is established.

Library a Partner in IT Smart-Fair

The Lunenburg/Queens Regional Development Agency, Nova Scotia Community College, SSRL, Industry Canada and other community agencies hosted an *IT Smart Fair* at the Community College campus in Bridgewater on March 16 & 17. The *Nova Scotia Smart Fair* showcased current and future uses of technology in Nova Scotia's *Smart Community* and beyond. A *Smart Community* is a community with a vision of the future that involves the use of information and communication technologies in new and innovative ways to empower its residents, institutions and regions as a whole. Information on the *Nova Scotia Smart Fair* can be found at http://ssrl.library.ns.ca/cap/smart-fair.

Coca-Cola Supports Thomas Raddall Library

The Thomas H. Raddall Library, the Liverpool Branch of the South Shore Regional Library, is proud to be a recipient of a $1,500 *share the stories* grant; a funding program for book collections and reading circles that is funded by Coca-Cola Canada and facilitated by ABC Canada Literacy Foundation. The grant was received in November 2003 and library staff have been busy, ordering, receiving and processing the books that have arrived as a result. Thomas H. Raddall's Library Assistant Cate Bird is pleased with the assortment of books. "We're so pleased to be able to offer so many new books to the young readers who use the Library. The new books cover a wide range of interests and reading levels and I'm certain they'll be well used."

Coca-Cola employee Dan Comeau and SSRL Library Assistant Cate Bird look over the books purchased with funds from a $1,5000 grant received from the ABC Canada/Coca-Cola Foundation.

There are a wide variety of titles for all ages - including picture books, early readers, early chapter books and some non-fiction. Young readers will enjoy books about their favourite sports such as *How Hockey Works* and *For the Love of Skateboarding*; craft books include *Making Shadow Puppets* and *Craft Concoctions*; *Make Your Own Bird-Houses and Feeders;* or *Garden Fun* will help you get ready for spring. Fans of *Junie B. Jones*; *Arthur*; the *Berenstain Bears* or the *Our Canadian Girls* series arrived in time for kids on March Break to enjoy them.

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

Snow Storm Cancels Overdue Fines

Patrons at WCRL did not have to worry about accruing fines for books that became over-due during the snowstorm that paralyzed the province in February. The meter on over-due books did not begin running again until Thursday, Feb. 26. "We serve a mostly rural population," said Director Trudy Amirault, adding that many patrons were still shoveling out. All 10 library branches were closed on Thursday, February 19 and Friday, February 20. Most branches, including the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Library in Yarmouth, remained closed throughout the following weekend, an event unprecedented in the library's 35-year history. Amirault, who has been at the library 29 years, said: "Even during the Groundhog Day storm, we were only closed for two days." In Yarmouth, a wall of snow blocked Willard Allen Lane, cutting off access to the library's headquarters. It was late Saturday, February 21 before snow removal could begin. Due to the continuing effects of the storm, WCRL had

to cancel its promotion with the *Yarmouth Motor Mart Mariners Hockey Team* at the Mariners Centre on Saturday, February 21. Ballots for an autographed *Mariners* T-shirt were still accepted, however, and the draw took place Tuesday, February 24 when the *Mariners* visited the library.

Adopt-a-Book

WCRL is hoping that residents of Yarmouth, Shelburne and Digby counties will take up the challenge during its upcoming major fundraiser *Adopt-a-Book*, which began April 1. This year's campaign features an *Adopt-a-Book Challenge* that encourages donors to increase the value of their donation by challenging others to also contribute. Businesses and organizations are being encouraged to increase the power of their donation by challenging others. The organization that earns the most points (from their donations plus the donations of those they challenge) will take custody of the library's new mascot Lotta Bookz for a year and have their name engraved on a plaque of honour. Staff at each branch has identified a business or organization which they will challenge to participate in *Adopt-a-Book*. The campaign was launched at noon on Thursday, April 1 at the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Library in Yarmouth with an *April Fool's Trivia Challenge*. Up to 10 teams competed in the challenge with games running on the half-hour through the afternoon. Library Director Trudy Amirault said the challenge theme seemed appropriate because libraries throughout Nova Scotia are facing challenging times. In a recently prepared report for the Minister of Education, the Regional Public Libraries Funding Review Committee 2003 found that funding for libraries over the last decade has not kept pace with the increasing costs for the materials needed to stock library shelves. For instance, between 1996-2000 book prices increased on average, by nearly 15 per cent. The report found that "this has led to an erosion of collection budgets and an inability to meet collection demand". Ms Amirault says the library's *Adopt-a-Book Campaign*, now in its fifth year, was established to address this reality.

The campaign, sponsored by CJLS Radio, has enabled WCRL to maintain its book budget despite significant financial pressures. During the last four campaigns people throughout the tri-counties have purchased nearly 5,000 books to add to library bookshelves.

Left to right: WCRL's Natasha Le Blanc and Veronica Hubbard preparing books and gift baskets for *Adopt-a-Book*.

Staff Raise Money For *Adopt-a-Book* Challenge During In-service

Nearly $370 was raised by a staff draw for two gift baskets held during the March 22 WCRL in-service.

All items for the two gift baskets were donated by staff, and a local merchant packaged and wrapped them. The funds will be used to kick-off the *Adopt-a-Book Challenge*.

Shelburne Library Clerk Edith Bower and Deputy Director Virginia Stoddard with the baskets they won in the *Adopt-a-Book* staff draw.

Boys Night Out

Fans of the *Yarmouth Motor Mart Mariners Junior A Hockey Team* congregated at the Izaak Walton Killam Library in Yarmouth on Tuesday, Feb. 24 to meet their home team favorites. Members of the *Mariners* were on hand to help WCRL introduce a new *Boys Night Out* program, designed especially for young boys between 8-12 years of age. The *Mariners* answered questions before moving to the main library, where they signed autographs for throngs of fans, both youngsters and the young at heart.

The new *Boys Night Out* program featured activities and books that encourage active participation. The program will be led by male mentors with a special guest featured monthly. In its first two months, the program in Yarmouth has highlighted a member of Baseball Nova Scotia's Hall of Fame and the morning man on the region's radio station, CJLS. A similar program at the McKay Memorial Library in Shelburne will begin in April. Children's Librarian Joanne Head says the *Boys Night Out* program is another step in addressing the decline in reading by pre-adolescent boys. Joanne reported the *Mariners* made a logical partner for the campaign. Since the franchise's move to the Mariners Centre, the team has attracted a legion of fans. The players have become local heroes for all ages. "Since their arrival, the team's management has been incredibly supportive," she said, referring to last year's *Read: Exercise Your Mind* poster campaign, which featured several of the team's players in street clothes with books. WCRL distributed the posters in schools and throughout the region.

Members of the *Yarmouth Mariners Hockey Team* circulated throughout the library to greet the crowd and to provide autographs after the *Boys Night Out* program launch.

***Mariners* team captain Grant Kenney (right) and defenceman Mark Plenzich, with the winner of a *Boys Night Out* sports bag raffle, Jordan Brush, during a Meet the Mariners visit to the IWK Memorial Library in Yarmouth.**

NEWS FROM DALHOUSIE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

Dr. Norman Horrocks, Professor Emeritus, School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS), Dalhousie University, Editorial Consultant, Scarecrow Press, Lanham, Maryland, and Contributing Editor, *Library Journal*, New York has been selected by the International Awards Committee of the Professor Kaula Endowment for Library and Information Science to be the 22nd recipient of the *International Kaula Gold Medal and Citation*. This Award, established in India in 1975, honours a person who has distinguished himself or herself as a Librarian, Documentalist, or Teacher of Library and Information Science.

The SLIS Associated Alumni invites nominations for the *2004 Outstanding Alumni Award*. This award honours a member of the Associated Alumni who has made an outstanding contribution to Library and Information Studies. Full details for eligibility and criteria for nominations are available at: www.mgmt.dal.ca/slis/PeopleGroups/alumni/outstanding.html. Nominations may be submitted by mail, e-mail or fax by June 30, 2004 to:

Selection Committee
Outstanding Alumni Award
c/o School of Library and Information Studies
Dalhousie University
Halifax, NS, B3H 3J5
Fax: 902-494-2451

E-mail: slis@dal.ca

The Dawson Print Shop held its first *Wayzgoose* on April 3, 2004 from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. The Print Shop hopes that this open house will be an annual event to display some of the work of students who have taken courses or workshops in the bindery and print shop. There were displays and demonstrations of the printers' and bookbinders' art and the opportunity to print your own keepsake in honour of the day.

SLIS Class Of 2004 Announce Website

Looking for energetic and enthusiastic new staff?

Prospectus 2004 is a student initiative which showcases newly-qualified information professionals from Dalhousie University.

Recognizing the benefits of collaboration, members of the Class of 2004 have agreed to help each other with job-seeking activities. We circulate news of employment opportunities, share advice on the wording and layout of resumes, and exchange strategies for job-seeking and interviews.

The practical focus of the initiative is a web site featuring individual biographies and resumes. It provides a forum for presenting our education, work experience, and skills to prospective employers - we have backgrounds in a wide variety of disciplines, and work experience gained across diverse employment sectors around the world.

For more details visit the *Prospectus 2004* website at www.prospectus2004.ca.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

REGIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES FUNDING REVIEW REPORT RELEASED

In February 2004, the Minister of Education released *Funding the Power of Public Libraries: the report of the Regional Public Libraries Funding Review Committee 2003.*

The Report is the result of deliberations by partners including the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia, Regional Library Boards, the Council of Regional Librarians, the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, the Association of Municipal Administrators, and the Department of Education. "The Report puts forth a solid foundation for planning and decision making. Its funding recommendations will be given serious consideration during the departmental budgeting process," said Minister Muir.

Approved funding levels for 2004-05 will be announced once the budgeting process has been completed. The report can be found at www.library.ns.ca/publications/library_funding.pdf.

MARITIME NOON FEATURES LIBRARIES

On Thursday, January 22, 2004, CBC Radio's *Maritime Noon* featured libraries on its call-in show. Just prior to the call-in portion of the show, a 10 minute segment on bookmobile service containing interviews from CEHRL, whose book mobile service ended in December 2003, and from SSRL where mobile library service is alive and well. During the call-in portion, guests Bill Maes, University Librarian

of Dalhousie University and Joann Hamilton-Berry, a librarian from the Saint John Regional Library fielded calls on the topic, *What services do you want from your library?*

A copy of the program has been placed in NSPL's Professional Collection and may be borrowed through interlibrary loan at inshpl@nshpl.library.ns.ca.

BOOKLIST NOVA SCOTIA LISTSERV (BLNS-L)

The Booklist Nova Scotia Listserv, called BLNS-L, provides information on the expanding professional collection at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. It was created to alert staff in the library community to the latest books, videos and serial titles added to its growing professional collection. Some of you have already subscribed to this listserv and probably have been wondering why you haven't been receiving any booklists lately. The reason for this is that BLNS-L has recently undergone some formatting changes. Unfortunately, this reformatting has meant that those who were previously subscribed to BLNS-L must now have to resubscribe to continue receiving the latest list of acquisitions for the professional collection. If you wish to resubscribe or if you want to join the list as a new member, please follow this procedure:

To Subscribe to BLNS-L:
The new address as of Sept. 8/03 to subscribe and unsubscribe is:

http://mail.library.ns.ca/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/blns

To post a message to all list members, send email to:

blns@mail.library.ns.ca

For more information about BLNS-L, contact Frank Oram at 424-2480, or e-mail foram@nshpl.library.ns.ca.

This listserv can also be used to make suggestions for additions to the collection. If you wish to borrow any items on the list, please arrange loans through your library. Interlibrary loan requests should be directed to inshpl@inshpl.library.ns.ca (or tel: 902-424-2479 / fax: 902-424-0633) and **not** to this listserv.

NOVA SCOTIA DIGITAL COLLECTIONS INITIATIVE

The Nova Scotia Digital Collections Initiative (NSDCI) will host its second *Open Meeting* at the Council of Nova Scotia Archives Spring Conference on Thursday, April 22. The meeting will take place from 10:30-12:30 at the Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management building, 6061 University Avenue, Halifax. There is no charge for attending the NSDCI *Open Meeting*.

The Nova Scotia Digital Collections Initiative was formed in May 2002 when the Nova Scotia Provincial Library hosted a day-long meeting with representatives from a wide variety of institutions and organizations with an interest in digital collections, including archives, museums, public libraries, universities, NSCC and the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies. Its primary purpose is to facilitate communication and provide opportunities for information sharing, collaboration and

cooperation among the various communities of interest involved in digitization in the province. Visit the NSDCI website for more information at http://nsdci.library.ns.ca/.

REFERENCE TELECONFERENCE: REALITIES OF DIGITAL REFERENCE: CHALLENGES, TOOLS, AND OPPORTUNITIES PART 2 - JOE JANES AND COLLEAGUES: PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL REFERENCE

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library will host Part 2 of the satellite broadcast teleconference *Realities of Digital Reference: Challenges, Tools, and Opportunities - Joe Janes and Colleagues: Preparing for the Future of Digital Reference.* Richard Dougherty, president of Dougherty and Associates, a library consulting firm, and past director of the University of Michigan Library and the University of California at Berkeley Library, will host a discussion which will focus on how libraries can seize opportunities to make their reference services central to the information lives of users. Issues to be discussed include privacy, collaboration, customer service, staff training and organizational changes.

Panel members will include: Joe Janes, Associate Professor and Chair of Library and Information Science, the Information School of the University of Washington and Founding Director of the Internet Public Library; Mary Anne Hodel, Director, Orange County Library (Orlando, FL); Joe Thompson, Project Coordinator, Maryland *AskUsNow*! This session is part of the Distance Learning Program, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL. Following the live teleconference broadcast participants will have an opportunity to hear Patrick Ellis, Coordinator, Reference Services at the Kellogg Health Sciences Library, talk about changes and trends in Health Sciences Information Services.

Details of the session:
- Date: Friday, April 16, 2004, 1-4 p.m.
- Place: Nova Scotia Provincial Library, Classroom, 3770 Kempt Road, Halifax
- Admission is free
- Limited parking is available in front of the building
- To register contact Carol Morris at 424-2477 or by e-mail at morrisc@gov.ns.ca by April 13th

We respectfully request that you refrain from wearing any scented products, including perfume, hair spray, cologne, deodorant, etc. and we thank you for your cooperation.

HOT TIPS AND UPDATES

HACKMATACK READERS VOTE FOR THEIR FAVOURITE AUTHORS

Hundreds of children across Atlantic Canada have been reading *Hackmatack* books and choosing their favourites. The *Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award* is in its fifth season with an exciting selection of thirty nominated French and English Canadian books for young readers. The deadline for casting votes is April 16, 2004.

While the young readers are busy selecting their favourite books, the *Hackmatack Committee* is organizing author tours and readings. This year eighteen of the nominated Canadian writers will visit thousands of their young fans in schools, libraries and communities in all four Atlantic provinces from May 25 to May 28. The readings are made possible with the generous support of the Canada Council for the Arts, and through the on-going collaboration with the Nova Scotia Regional Libraries, the New Brunswick Public Libraries, the St. John's Public Libraries in Newfoundland and the Public Libraries in

Summerside and Charlottetown in PEI.

Visiting writers will include, from Ontario: Kathy Stinson, Alan Cumyn, Susan Hughes, Jo Ellen Bogart, Karen Levine; from Quebec: Angle Delanois, Mich le Marineau, Lucia Cavezzali, Nathalie Loignon, illustrator Jean-Marie Benoit; from British Columbia: Julie Lawson, Linda Bailey, Ainslie Manson; from New Brunswick: Cathy Brown Murphy; from Newfoundland: Joan Clark, Françoise Enguhard; and from Nova Scotia: Budge Wilson and Jill Bryant.

This year the *Hackmatack Award Ceremony* will be held on May 28, from 10am to 12pm at the Atlantic Baptist University in Moncton, New Brunswick.

For more information on how to participate in the *Hackmatack* reading program and upcoming events, check out the website www.hackmatack.ca. To receive a copy of the colourful 2004 award poster, contact the *Hackmatack* office at 902-424-3774 or via e-mail at hackmatack@hackmatack.ca.

REFERENCE ON THE NET

Here are some more reference questions which were referred to the Provincial Library by the Regional Public Libraries and answered with help from resources found on the Internet.

Q. The patron is interested in a potassium free and sugar free diet and would like recipes which are both potassium free and sugar free.

A. An extensive search failed to turn up any recipes like this so probably it would be best to consult a dietitian or nutritionist. A web page with experts was found on the *Canadian Health Network* web site at http://www.canadian-health-network.ca/. Enter the web site and select the *A-Z Index*. You can either choose D for Dietitians or N for Nutritionists to find a link titled *Dietitians and nutritionists will answer your questions by email at these University Web Sites* at http://www.sfu.ca/~jfremont/askanrd.html. Unfortunately, not all of the links to experts here are working but those that are should be able to help with this question.

Q. The patron is looking for photographs of a Montreal streetcar and the Victoria Bridge in Montreal circa 1918.

A. The street albums of E.-Z. Massicotte on the web site of the *Biblioth que nationale du Québec* at http://www.bnquebec.ca/massic/accueil.htm has illustrations portraying Montréal during the period from 1870 to 1920. In the index on the left side of the site click on P and scan down to *Pont Victoria* and click on T and scan down to *Tramways*. Some other sites to check for this are *Artefacts Canada* at http://www.chin.gc.ca/English/Artefacts_Canada/ and Images Canada at http://www.imagescanada.ca/. At the *Artefacts Canada* web site go into the *Humanities* section and search for images on these topics. At *Images Canada* try Advanced Search for more precise results.

LINKeD

World Theatre Day is celebrated annually on March 27 and to coincide with that this month's column features some useful Internet sites with theatre information with an emphasis on those with Canadian

information.

The Cape Breton Regional Library Plays Collection at http://www.cbrl.ca/search/plays.html is a database of a collection of plays which CBRL has compiled over the past fifty years. It is searchable by author, title, number of actors, or by audience type.

The Playwrights Guild of Canada at http://www.playwrightsguild.ca/ has biographical information on members as well as a searchable *Catalogue of Canadian Plays*.

Play Collection Index at http://www.webrary.org/ref/searchplays.html was produced by Morton Grove Public Library, Morton Grove, IL. It is an index of the library's play collection books, which can be searched by words from a play title or author name.

The *Atlantic Canada Theatre Site* at http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/Theatre/ is a production of the *Electronic Text Centre* at the University of New Brunswick Libraries. A very useful resource here is *The Bibliography of Theatre History in Canada: The Beginnings Through 1984* which contains 10,807 entries. Click on *Drama Bibliography* on the main page to access this searchable database.

theatrecanada.com at http://www.theatrecanada.com/ has a *Theatres* section where there is a directory of theatres arranged by province with links to their web sites.

At the *Playwrights Atlantic Resource Center* site http://www3.ns.sympatico.ca/parcoffice/ scroll down the page to the *Catalogue of Atlantic Canadian Plays* which lists scripts written by members of the Center.

The *Encyclopedia of Canadian Theatre* at http://www.canadiantheatre.com/ is maintained by Athabasca University with members of the Association for Canadian Theatre Research acting as the editorial board. It is a useful database of information about Canadian actors, playwrights, directors, producers, designers, theatre organizations and institutions, composers and plays.

International Theatre Resources from Artslynx at http://www.artslynx.org/theatre/ has an extensive collection of links covering all aspects of the theatre which are arranged by topic. The site is produced and maintained by Richard Finkelstein, a theatre professor. The *Scripts* topic has many links to sites which have play databases.

Web sites which were featured in previous *Linked* columns are arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at http://www.library.ns.ca/services/reference/index.htm. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at morrisc@gov.ns.ca.

PROFESSIONAL READING

In this month's column, two books of particular interest to public libraries are featured. Interlibrary loan requests should be directed to inshpl@inshpl.library.ns.ca (or tel: 902-424-2479 / fax: 902-424-0633)

Siess, Judith A. - *The visible librarian : asserting your value with marketing and advocacy* / Chicago : American Library Association, 2003.
Call # : PROF 021 .7 Sie

The author maintains that the recent downsizing and closing of libraries and the elimination of many library positions is proof that libraries are no longer a given in today's society. She says that, despite the proof that librarians bring unique value to their communities and organizations, all too often their work goes unrecognized. In this book, the author provides strategies to connect customers and make services both visible and valuable to the community. She describes the best practices in marketing library services and provides stories and case studies of library colleagues to help librarians assert the value of libraries in their communities.

Gorman, Michael - *The enduring library : technology, tradition, and the quest for balance* / Chicago : American Library Association, 2003.
Call #: PROF 021 .2 Gor

The author asserts that the treatment of current communications technologies as tools of librarians must be understood in terms of the history of communications technologies. He says that just as the television was overly hyped as the solution to education needs, information technology, will ultimately fail to deliver on the promise of the completely virtual library. The author urges librarians to recognize this pattern of communications technologies in order to integrate the use of new technologies toward meeting library goals.

Credits go to:
Michelle Bowden, Project Coordinator, Family Literacy Research Project, Colchester-East Hants Regional Library
Norene Smiley, Coordinator, Hackmatack Children's Choice Award

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http://www.library.ns.ca/publications/disseminator/

Comments on or suggestions for The Disseminator should be directed to Arlene Watts at **wattsam@gov.ns.ca**

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